

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 057360
ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 INR-07 L-03 H-01 PA-01
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OES-06 IO-13 /072 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/AND/V:TWSONANDRES
APPROVED BY ARA - MR. LUERS
ARA/AND - MR. DEVINE
ARA/PPC - MR. WOO?RWF?
-----152059Z 045456 /61
O 151949Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 057360

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VE

SUBJECT: COUNTRY SPECIFIC GUIDANCE FOR VENEZUELAN PARM

REF: STATE 38356, STATE 38338, STATE 45461

1. PREPARATION OF VENEZUELAN PARM SHOULD INCORPORATE
SENSE OF REFTELS, DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE FOR FY 77-78 CASP
IN FEBRUARY 10, 1976 LETTER FROM ARA/AND DIRECTOR DEVINE
TO AMBASSADOR SHLAUDEMAN, AND SPECIFIC POINTS BELOW.

2. PER FY 77-78 CASP, WE VIEW LONG-TERM STRATEGIC U.S.
INTERESTS AS (1) DEPENDABLE ACCESS TO VENEZUELAN OIL
AROUND CURRENT VOLUMES, (2) RETAINING AND IMPROVING THE
U.S. POSITION AS A MAJOR VENEZUELAN SUPPLIER OF GOODS
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AND SERVICES AND (3) COOPERATIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE VENE-
ZUELAN POSITIONS ON GLOBAL AND REGIONAL ISSUES IMPORTANT
TO THE UNITED STATES.

3. IN GENERAL, VENEZUELA OFFERS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO
FURTHER U.S. INTERESTS IN LIGHT OF OUR BASICALLY GOOD
BILATERAL RELATIONS, OUR ECONOMIC INTERDEPENDENCE, OUR

SHARED DEMOCRATIC VALUES AND SIMILAR INTERNATIONAL POSITIONS (E.G., ON TERRORISM, HUMAN RIGHTS, ETC.), AND VENEZUELA'S INTERNATIONAL INFLUENCE. SUCH IS POSSIBLE,

HOWEVER, ONLY IF, AT THE SAME TIME, WE ATTEND INTELLIGENTLY TO DIFFICULTIES EMERGING FROM BUSINESS OR OTHER DISPUTES.

4. WE WOULD NOTE A NUMBER OF MEANS TO PROMOTE THESE INTERESTS (PARA. 2). WE COULD EXPLORE MEANS IN WHICH VENEZUELA MAY BE INCLUDED IN DEVELOPING U.S. ENERGY POLICIES. WE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO RESPOND IF AND WHEN VENEZUELA SEEKS ASSISTANCE IN DEVELOPING THE ORINOCO HEAVY OIL BELT. WE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO OFFER GOOD OFFICES WHEN A U.S. COMPANY DOES NOT RECEIVE FAIR TREATMENT IN VENEZUELA AND PROVES UNABLE TO WORK OUT SERIOUS BUSINESS DISPUTES DIRECTLY WITH THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT. WE SHOULD HOLD FREQUENT AND FRANK EXCHANGES OF VIEW AT VARIOUS LEVELS IN CARACAS AND WASHINGTON ON IMPORTANT BILATERAL, REGIONAL AND GLOBAL ISSUES. OF KEY IMPORTANCE TO MAINTAINING OVERALL GOOD RELATIONS IS ABILITY OF THE USG TO RESPOND PROMPTLY TO VENEZUELAN PROBLEMS AND REQUESTS WE SHOULD TAKE APPROPRIATE ADVANTAGE OF VENEZUELAN OFFERS TO PLAY AN INTERMEDIARY ROLE ON THE CANAL TREATY, NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, AND CUBA. CIRCUMSTANCES AT ANY GIVEN MOMENT MAY DETERMINE THE DESIRABILITY OF SEEKING VENEZUELAN SUPPORT, BUT THAT GOVERNMENT SHOULD AT LEAST BE KEPT INFORMED OF OUR PERSPECTIVE ON THESE MATTERS. FURTHER, WE SHOULD WORK CLOSELY WITH VENEZUELA ON HUMAN

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RIGHTS, TERRORISM AND OTHER ISSUES ON WHICH WE SHARE SIMILAR POSITIONS. WE SHOULD FILL SOONEST THE COUNTRY FINANCED SERVICES OFFICER SLOT AT EMBASSY CARACAS.

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Message Attributes

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